



EFFECTS OF LONG-LINE TUNA FISHING ON THE INDUSTRIAL LEVEL

* Longline tuna fishing on the commercial level off the southeastern coast has been shown to cause decline in ecosystem stability in the Pacific Ocean. As tuna are being caught at an unprecedented rate, and other species are being caught as bycatch, these marine ecosystems are seeing a decline in key species. Our aim is to determine the fluctuation of these populations in order to thoroughly monitor policies, which will facilitate more sustainable methods of longline fishing.

Class Gap

The increase in poverty and job loss created by commercial fishing developers a class gap within local communities.

Lack of Regulation

Lack of regulation results in underreported catches, illegal gear, and worker exploitation. These unchecked actions can add to the severity of environmental and social harm of long-line fishing.

Job Creation

Commercial fishing provides many jobs such as; fishermen, ship crew, gear manufactures, and other positions within the industry itself.

Recreation

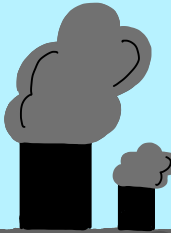
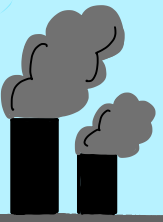
The presence of industry fishing can be a deterrent to local tourism and recreation. This can have a negative economy effect on the local community. It also lowers the standard of living for those in the area.

Poverty

The combination of industry competition and monopoly on the fish market causes poverty for those living in local communities. This is caused by their loss of work, and inability to afford high-priced industry fish.

Competition

Presence of industry fishing ships and vendors creates competition for local fishermen causing loss in business, and inevitably their livelihoods.



Bycatch

Species like dolphins, whales, turtles, and many others can be caught or harmed by long lines.



Habitat Destruction

Long lines are a huge contributor to the issue of coral reef death and deterioration.

Long lines themselves can tear through habitats displacing fish populations and destroying food sources.



Broken or discarded gear that gets left on the ocean floor

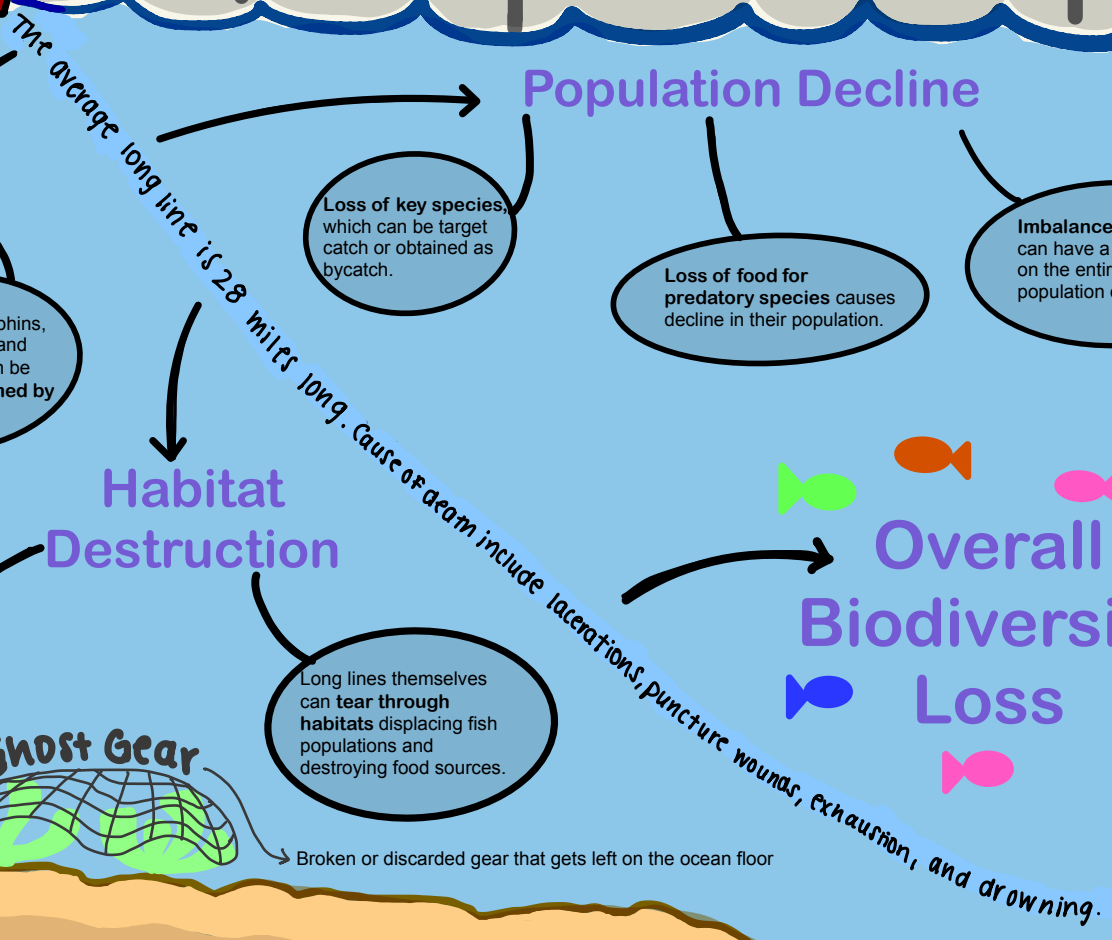
Population Decline

Loss of key species, which can be target catch or obtained as bycatch.

Loss of food for predatory species causes decline in their population.

Imbalance of species can have a domino effect on the entire fish population of the region.

Overall Biodiversity Loss



WHAT CAN WE DO?

Eliminate fish from diet. This lowers demand for industry caught fish.

Support legislation aiming to enforce regulations in industry action.
Regulation can include: minimizing soak times and line length, safe handling and release, increasing captain communication, and many others

Get involved in the local communities and encourage others to take action.
Action such as: conservation funding, researching fish behavior, publicizing the issue, and many others

Support local fisherman by purchasing their goods instead of those sold commercially.